Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An input device comprising:

a plurality of electrodes arranged in a circumferential direction at equal intervals and having a predetermined area;

an insulating sheet laminated on surfaces of the respective electrodes; ~~and~~

capacitance detecting means provided for each electrode so as to detect ~~for detecting a variation of capacitance~~ from the respective electrodes a variation in capacitance between the electrode and a portion of the human body when a portion of the human body is adjacent to or in contact with an external surface of the insulating sheet; and

a control unit that receives a detection signal from the capacitance detecting means to detect switching due to approach or contact of a portion of the human body to each electrode,

wherein the control unit detects operating information including an operating direction, an operating speed, and/or a contact time, by the combination of detection of switching.

2. (Previously Presented) The input device according to Claim 1,

wherein the capacitance detecting means comprises: clock signal generating means for generating a clock signal;

delay means for delaying the clock signal according to the capacitance detected from the electrode when the human body is adjacent to or in contact with the external surface of the insulating sheet;

smoothing means for generating a smoothed signal according to a delayed amount, based on the clock signal which does not pass through the delay means; and

A/D converting means for analog-to-digital converting the smoothed signal according to an amount of the variation of capacitance.

3. (Original) The input device according to Claim 2,

wherein the delay means, the smoothing means, and the A/D converting means are provided in each of the plurality of electrodes, respectively.

4. (Currently Amended) The input device according to Claim 1,

wherein the capacitance detecting means detects a variation of a facing area between one of the electrodes and the portion of the human body.

5. (Currently Amended) The input device according to Claim 1,

wherein the capacitance detecting means detects a time when the electrode faces the portion of the human body.

6. (Original) The input device according to Claim 1,

wherein the capacitance detecting means detects switching information on the plurality of electrodes simultaneously tapped.

7. (Original) The input device according to Claim 1,

wherein portions of the surface of the insulating sheet that are opposite to the electrodes are concaved or convexed from the surface of the insulating sheet.

8. (Previously Presented) The input device according to Claim 1,

wherein an entire operation region in which the plurality of electrodes is provided is concaved or convexed from regions other than the operation region.

9. (Original) The input device according to Claim 8,

wherein marks for indicating positions of the respective electrodes are printed on the surface of the insulating sheet.

10. (Previously Presented) The input device according to Claim 1,

wherein a region in which the plurality of electrodes is formed is provided with a rotating body rotating around a center of thereof.